



St. Louis Catholic Church

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Parish Council Minutes June 21, 2011

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Nathan Wanstrath at 7:00 PM.

Attendance:

Fr. Randy Summers, Chairperson Nathan Wanstrath, Secretary Kevin Chaffee, Ryan Rahe, Sebastian Moster, TJ Greene, Jason Burlage, DeeDee Kaiser, Kathy Mattucci, Amy Tonges, Kim Koehne, and Mary Jo Wuestefeld.

Opening Prayer:

The opening prayer was given by Fr. Randy.

Approval of Minutes:

A correction to the previous minutes was requested by Fr. Randy to clarify the financial reporting to the parishioners in the bulletin. With that change, a motion was made by Fr. Randy and seconded by Jason Burlage to approve the minutes. A copy of the minutes will be placed in the binder in the back of church and emailed to the parish secretary.

Pastor's Report:

Fr. Randy was asked about Fr. Stephen's change in status from associate pastor to sacramental minister. He replied that the change was made to more accurately reflect Fr. Stephen's actual role in the parish and that it was a confidential personnel issue between he and Fr. Stephen. He reported that the archdiocese actually made the appointment. He also announced that a new music director had been hired and she will begin her duties July 1.

New Business:

Nathan presided over parish council officer elections. The office of president was the first to be considered. Kevin Chaffee made motion to nominate Nathan Wanstrath. Second by Mary Jo Wuestefeld. Nathan accepted the nomination and was elected by unanimous agreement of the council.

The office of vice-president was considered next. Nathan nominated Kevin Chaffee. Second by Kathy Mattucci. Kevin accepted the nomination and was elected by unanimous agreement of the council.

The final office of secretary was considered. Mary Jo nominated Sebastian Moster. Second by Jason Burlage. Sebastian accepted the nomination and was elected by unanimous agreement of the council.

Old Business:

There was no old business to discuss.

Reports:

The reports were sent out prior to the meeting to all council and committee members for review. Jason reviewed the financial report and answered questions from the council about restricted accounts and the process of moving these accounts into the general budget. Amy was concerned about the art fund and requested that it remain a restricted account. Jason replied that closing of the restricted accounts has not been finalized and there will be opportunity to consider keeping certain accounts active. DeeDee reviewed the grants applied for and received and was thanked by the group for her outstanding efforts. Amy Tonges reviewed the SGO program and the selection of the Choice organization to help administer the program. This program could have an excellent impact on St. Louis School enrollment. Kathy discussed Fr. Stephen's upcoming anniversary celebration on July 24. Kim Koehne reported on Faith Formation activities. The reports are enclosed and made a part of these minutes.

Closing Prayer:

The closing prayer was lead by Fr. Randy. There will be no parish council meeting in July.

June 20th, 2011

To: St. Louis Church Parish Council
From: Jason Burlage, Finance Committee Chairperson
Re: Finance Committee Update

Financial Update

Through May, St. Louis revenues were \$2.84M, and are \$210k above plan, driven by a one-time donation. Expenses were \$2.45M, \$135k below plan, driven by savings across the parish which results in a net \$345k ahead of our plan.

Cash on hand is \$560k, the ADLF restricted accounts have a balance of \$450k, and the Hilliard Lyons main account and technology accounts have balances of \$1.2M and \$377k respectively, for a total asset balance of \$2.6M.

Finance Committee Update

2012 Budget

The budget for next year is finalized and balanced and will be submitted to the Archdiocese in June.

Faith Formation Report
June 21, 2011

Our last meeting was June 16, and we are happy to have Leron Giesting join our team. He will be a great asset. And so our FF Committee consists of: Bobbi Laker, Deborah Weigel, Ron Freyer, Mark Masavage, Leron Giesting, and Janet Hansen. Kim Koehne will be the chairperson, and she will be attending the Parish Council meetings.

In August we usually set our annual schedule, and so several different programs were discussed for the fall of this year. We may repeat the *Biblical Walk Through the Mass* by Edward Sri in the morning to benefit those who prefer not to go out at night. This 5-week series was very well received during Lent.

The *Great Adventure Bible Time Line* is a wonderful Bible Study series with DVD and discussion points provided with the package. It could be offered in a condensed 6-week series, or for 24 weeks with more manageable Bible assignments to read each week.

We also discussed providing a *Theology of the Body* series. We are studying these ideas on our own, and will decide which to offer to the parish in a month or so.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Hansen

Grants

July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011

Month	Foundation	Reason	Amount	Applied/Received
July 2010	John A. Hillenbrand	New switches	\$31,000	Yes /\$31,165
September 2010	RCCF	Walkie-talkies	\$249.00	Yes /\$249.00
October 2010	RSRF	30 iPads	\$15,000	Yes /\$15,000
November 2010	Wm. A. & Martha H. Hillenbrand	30 iPads	\$8,000	Yes /\$8,000
December 2010	Pella Rolscreen	Honor-Gus	\$2,500	/\$2,500
January 2011	RSRF	10 wireless Microphones	\$3,780	Yes / No
March 2011	Kroger Co.	Circuit breakers	\$2,300	Yes /\$2,300
April 2011	RSRF	13 Whiteboards	\$25,000	Yes /No answer, yet
April 2011	Wm. A. & Martha H. Hillenbrand	13 Whiteboards	\$8,000	Yes /\$8,000
May 2011	John A. Hillenbrand	13 Whiteboards	\$6,500	Yes /\$6,500
May 2011	John A. Hillenbrand	10 Wireless Microphones	\$5,000	Yes /No
May 2011	John A. Hillenbrand	4 Computers & Printers/ Office	\$8,077	Yes /\$8,077
May 2011	John A. Hillenbrand	HVAC in preschool & boiler repair	\$25,000	Yes /No
May 2011	Pella Rolscreen	Honor-Gus	\$2,500	/\$Yes

Parish Life / Christian Services Report
Parish Council
June 21, 2011

Hospitality Committee: We will be serving at Father Stephen's 25th Anniversary Celebration on July 24th. Father will celebrate the 11:00 Mass and there will be a catered dinner afterwards. Our committee will be having a special meeting on July 13th to finalize details. Invitations will be mailed out to all parishioners. For those not able to attend the dinner, a brief reception will be held after the Masses.

Twin Parish Committee: The semi-annual Twin Parish Shoe Drive, held in May, collected 1198 pairs of shoes this year. This is 142 pairs more than in 2010. .

Youth Ministry Committee: Youth Ministry will be hosting the Coffee & Donuts after all Masses on Sunday, June 26th. Also on the 26th, the Mission Team leaves for Canonsburg, Pennsylvania and will return on Saturday, July 3rd. Mission Team members will also be serving as Altar Servers, Lector, Greeters, Gift Bearers and Ministers of Communion at the 5:00 Mass on Saturday, June 25th and Saturday, July 3rd. For the Youth Group summer activity, there will be a Canoe Trip on July 9th.

This will be my final report and meeting as my term on the Parish Life Committee expires in August. Linda Siefert has agreed to become the new Committee Chairperson and thus the Parish Council Representative. May God bless the new and returning Parish Council members as they try to represent the best interests of St. Louis Parish.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Mattucci
Chairperson

School Commission Meeting

5-31-2011

Principal's report

- We are proud to announce that St. Louis School has received the Silver Level Healthy Hoosier School Award from the State of Indiana! This is the fourth consecutive year SLS has been recognized with this award. The award is based on a school's achievement in the areas of nutrition, health, and physical exercise for students and staff. SLS was one of only two Archdiocesan schools to receive this award
- The Feinstein Foundation is an organization that rewards acts of kindness. St. Louis School recently received this reward.
- Just wanted to share some good news. The Health Department paid us a visit on 5/18 and the results were "No Violations @ time of Inspection, Good Job".

NCA results

The following was taken from the letter from the archdiocese regarding the NCA results:

COMMENDATIONS

The team commends St. Louis School for the following strengths:

- 1. The principal provides strong spiritual, instructional and managerial leadership for the school.*
- 2. The faculty and staff are cohesive, caring, hard working and flexible in meeting the needs of all students.*
- 3. Communication between administration, faculty, parents, and school commission and parish community is strong.*
- 4. Parents are involved in the life of the school and provide their continual support through volunteerism and fundraising activities.*
- 5. Students are well-behaved, polite, hard working and respectful of one another.*

6. *Students have ready access to technology both in the classroom and in computer labs.*
7. *The school receives support from community organizations in the form of technology, wellness resources, county-wide special services and student tutoring.*
8. *St. Louis School became a NCLB Blue Ribbon School in 2003.*

RECOMMENDATIONS

The team recommends that St. Louis School take the following steps to improve:

1. *Consider updating goal interventions and strategies by incorporating Marzano's research-based instructional strategies.*
2. *Make every effort to focus on questions that require higher order thinking skills and include student activities that focus on the ability to analyze, synthesize and evaluate.*
3. *Investigate ways to challenge the high ability students in order to make a year's growth in a year's time.*
4. *Explore ways to provide additional assistance to students in the areas of special needs and counseling.*
5. *As the school markets itself to parish families and surrounding parishes, it will become important to develop, implement and monitor a long-range strategic plan for the school and parish. The plan should consider the space and storage challenges of the school, needed capital improvements and employment of additional staff to support school effectiveness.*
6. *As teachers and students get acquainted with a new pastor, provide specific events, activities, and/or lessons in which the pastor can participate within the classroom setting.*

Facilities

To address some of the NCA recommendations concerning the facilities, School Commission has decided to form a standing Facilities Committee. This committee will work with the maintenance team to help identify the needs of the school.

Election of School Commission Officers

Chair: Amy Tonges

Vice Chair: Jill Koch (Also reporting to Finance)

Secretary: Sarah Pulskamp

Retention and Recruitment: Beth Stone and Autumn Hurm

Catholic Identity: Jenny Geers

Facilities: Tony Gutzwiller

SGO (Scholarship Grant Organization) and Voucher Programs

Chad Moeller, Dee Dee Kaiser, Jill Koch and Father Randy met with the Archdiocese on May 19, 2011 concerning the SGO. The Archdiocese recommended an organization by the name of CHOICE to manage the SGO for our school. On May 20, 2011, Chad Moeller, Jill Koch, Amy Tonges, Dee Dee Kaiser and Bob Hurm met with Luke Messer and Mindy Colbert from CHOICE. The decision was made to use CHOICE to manage an SGO for St. Louis School. An SGO is an organization through which people can donate money to a specific Catholic School and receive credit for up to 50% of their state income tax liability. The money is then used for Scholarships for students attending that Catholic school providing they meet the income guidelines. Once a child receives a CHOICE scholarship in Kindergarten, that child may be eligible for state funded vouchers for grades 1 thru 12. The child must continue to meet the income guidelines. The voucher would cover nearly the full amount of tuition. Letters were sent out to Kindergarten parents informing them of the SGO program. Several applications have been received.

Letters have also gone out to parishioners with children not attending St. Louis School, informing them of the voucher program. This program allows state tax dollars to follow a child from a public school to a private school. They must have been in the public school for two semesters before being eligible.